

Annfield Plain Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

STANLEY,

FEBRUARY 18th, 1897.

GENTLEMEN,

The Annfield Plain Urban District was formed on October 19th, 1896. It includes all the Stanley division of the Lanchester Rural, and, in addition, a portion of Lanchester Rural, called Greencroft within. The area is 3,696 acres, and the population was 9797 at the census of 1891.

My election as your Medical Officer dates from the 12th of November, and I beg to submit to your Authority a list of sickness from Zymotic Diseases occurring from that date until the end of the year, together with the number of deaths returned during the whole period from the formation of the district.

The number of cases from infectious diseases brought to my notice amounted to 63, made up as follows, viz: Enteric Fever 2, Measles 25, Whooping Cough 35, Croup 1.

ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER. One case occurred at Kyo, and the other at Dipton. Nothing definite was discovered to account for the origin of either of them.

MEASLES began in South Medomsley, and spread to Dipton and the immediately adjoining villages. It never assumed an epidemic form.

WHOOPING COUGH made its appearance first into South Medomsley, and has since covered a fairly large area, but the cases were not so numerous as might have been expected, considering the rapid manner that it spread. The same district over the borders evidently supplied both outbreaks.

CROUP. The only case reported was neither preceded nor followed by another.

BIRTHS & DEATHS. The number of births registered from October 19th to the end of the year amounted to 84, and the deaths to 45. The birth-rate for the ten weeks is equal to 40·75, and the death-rate to 20·93 per 1000 per annum, estimating the population at 10,700. Deaths from infectious diseases were as follows, 2 from Measles, 3 from Whooping Cough, and 1 from Croup, total 6, being over 13 per cent of the whole.

INFANTILE MORTALITY was, as usual, in mining districts, high. 16 deaths were under one year, over a third, and 11 between the ages of one and five years, shewing that half the population succumbed under five years of age. Infectious diseases was responsible for five, but the majority might be classed under debility and mal-nutrition.





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Table of Sickness from Infectious Diseases.

UNDER FIVE YEARS.				FIVE YEARS AND OVER.
Enteric Fever	...	...	0	2
Measles	...	...	12	13
Whooping Cough	...	...	20	15
Croup	...	...	1	0
TOTAL			33	30

Table of Deaths according to Ages.

Under One Year	...	...	16
Between One and Five Years	...	...	11
„ Five and Fifteen	...	...	1
„ Fifteen and Twenty-five	...	...	1
„ Twenty-five and Sixty-five	...	...	5
Over Sixty-five	...	...	11
TOTAL			45

Table of Deaths from all Diseases.

UNDER FIVE YEARS.				OVER FIVE YEARS.
Measles	...	...	2	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	2	1
Croup	...	...	1	0
Pneumonia, Bronchitis, and Pleurisy	...	...	9	2
Phthisis	...	...	1	4
Heart Disease	...	...	1	3
Accidents	...	...	0	1
All Others	...	...	11	7
TOTAL			27	18

Your Inspector having entered upon his duties only in December, there has been neither time nor opportunity to do more than make an examination of the district, and see to the removal of petty nuisances.

As my "Year's Report" to Lanchester Rural Authority contains matters relating to the sanitary state of the major portion of your district, I take the liberty of attaching it to this Report.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

T. BENSON,

MEDICAL OFFICER.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

